

Serial No. 10/758,555
Amendment After Non-Final

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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Listing of claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for transferring loaded containers between a delivery vehicle and a dockside located sea vessel by use of a crane having a spreader bar suspended therefrom, comprising:

a mobile loader including a fixedly attached motorized cab for propelling the mobile loader to a load transfer dockside location underlying the crane;

a platform in the loader, the platform having:

an upper side,

an underside having,

guide rails, the guide rails having flare shaped ends to position the spreader bar of the crane into alignment with the at least one container by redirecting the spreader bar to position the spreader bar into said alignment with the at least one container,
the platform for carrying at least one of the containers on the upper side between the guide rails;

a motorized ~~means~~ device mounted on the platform to move the guide rails into engagement with the at least one container, ~~and flare means to position the spreader bar of the crane into alignment with the at least one container;~~

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a hoisting device means for the transfer of the at least one container between the platform and the delivery vehicle positioned within the loader; ~~wherein the flare means are flare shaped ends of the guide rails for redirecting the spreader bar to position the spreader bar into said alignment with the at least one container;~~

a lifting device means ~~connected~~ attached to the underside of the platform at a substantially central location of the platform for elevation thereof to decrease required descent of the spreader bar from the crane toward the at least one container carried on the platform,

wherein said loader further comprises;

a wheeled frame having;

a first pair of vertical posts, the platform adjacent to the first pair of vertical posts, and

a second pair of vertical posts, ~~the loader having~~
an elongated bottom support attached to the first pair of vertical posts, with the lifting device mounted on the elongated bottom support, and means disposed in ~~underlying relation to the platform,~~ the platform adjacent the first pair of vertical posts, and

a delivery vehicle receiving opening, the delivery vehicle receiving opening adjacent the second pair of vertical posts,

the apparatus system further including comprising:

a sensor grid means operatively connected to the motorized ~~means~~ device and the hoisting device means for controlling said movement of the at least one container in accordance with variations in location and size thereof on the delivery vehicle and the platform,

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wherein the sensor grid ~~means~~ is positioned between the second pair of vertical posts, the
sensor grid also positioned adjacent the delivery vehicle opening.

Claims 2-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (new): The system of claim 1, wherein the lifting device comprises a hydraulic
actuator.